

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing identifying information over a voice communications link comprising:
 - receiving, from a call participant, a personal identification code over the voice communications link;
 - determining identifying information for the call participant using the personal identification code;
 - encoding the identifying information of the call participant within a voice stream carried by the voice communications link; and
 - sending the voice stream and identifying information to a subscriber.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the voice communications link is a telephony communications link.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying information indicates whether the call participant has been authenticated.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying information and the voice stream are digital information, such that the identifying information is embedded within the voice stream.
5. The method of claim 4, said encoding step comprising:
 - removing inaudible portions a speech signal; and
 - embedding the identifying information in place of the inaudible portions of the speech signal within the voice stream.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - receiving the voice stream and identifying information; and
 - decoding the identifying information.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising presenting a representation of the identifying information.
8. The method of claim 7, further comprising playing an audible representation of the voice stream.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the audible representation of the received voice stream is played substantially concurrently with the presentation of the identifying information.
10. A system for providing identifying information over a voice communications link comprising:
 - means for receiving, from a call participant, a personal identification code over the voice communications link;
 - means for determining identifying information for the call participant using the personal identification code;
 - means for encoding the identifying information of the call participant within a voice stream carried by the voice communications link; and
 - means for sending the voice stream and identifying information to a subscriber.
11. The system of claim 10, wherein the voice communications link is a telephony communications link.
12. The system of claim 10, wherein the identifying information indicates whether the call participant has been authenticated.
13. The system of claim 10, wherein the identifying information and the voice stream are digital information, such that the identifying information is embedded within the voice stream.
14. The system of claim 13, said means for encoding comprising:

means for removing inaudible portions a speech signal; and
means for embedding the identifying information in place of the inaudible portions of the speech signal within the voice stream.

15. The system of claim 10, further comprising:

means for receiving the voice stream and identifying information; and
means for decoding the identifying information.

16. The system of claim 15, further comprising means for presenting a representation of the identifying information.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising means for playing an audible representation of the voice stream.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the audible representation of the received voice stream is played substantially concurrently with the presentation of the identifying information.

19. A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving, from a call participant, a personal identification code over the voice communications link;

determining identifying information for the call participant using the personal identification code;

encoding the identifying information of the call participant within a voice stream carried by the voice communications link; and

sending the voice stream and identifying information to a subscriber.

20. The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein the voice communications link is a telephony communications link.

21. The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein the identifying information indicates whether the call participant has been authenticated.
22. The machine readable storage of claim 19, wherein the identifying information and the voice stream are digital information, such that the identifying information is embedded within the voice stream.
23. The machine readable storage of claim 22, said encoding step comprising:
removing inaudible portions a speech signal; and
embedding the identifying information in place of the inaudible portions of the speech signal within the voice stream.
24. The machine readable storage of claim 19, further comprising:
receiving the voice stream and identifying information; and
decoding the identifying information.
25. The machine readable storage of claim 24, further comprising presenting a representation of the identifying information.
26. The machine readable storage of claim 25, further comprising playing an audible representation of the voice stream.
27. The machine readable storage of claim 26, wherein the audible representation of the received voice stream is played substantially concurrently with the presentation of the identifying information.